

CHARACTERIZATION OF γ -FACTORS: THE ASAI CASE

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ABSTRACT. Let E be a separable quadratic algebra over a locally compact field F of positive characteristic. The Langlands-Shahidi method can be used to define the Asai γ -factors for a smooth irreducible generic representation π of $\mathrm{GL}_n(E)$. If σ is the Weil-Deligne representation of \mathcal{W}_E corresponding to π under the local Langlands correspondence, then it is shown that the Asai γ -factor is the same as the γ -factor on the Galois side corresponding to the representation of \mathcal{W}_E obtained from σ under tensor induction. This is achieved by proving that Asai γ -factors are characterized by their local properties together with their role in global functional equations for L -functions. An immediate application concerns the stability of γ -factors under twists by highly ramified characters.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let F be a locally compact field of positive characteristic p . Let ψ be a non-trivial character of F and π a smooth irreducible generic representation of $\mathrm{GL}_n(F)$, where n is a positive integer. If ρ_n denotes the standard representation of $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$, let r be either $\mathrm{Sym}^2 \rho_n$ or $\wedge^2 \rho_n$. In [7] the authors establish the equality of γ -factors:

$$\gamma(s, \pi, r, \psi) = \gamma(s, r \circ \sigma, \psi),$$

where the factor on the left is defined via the Langlands-Shahidi method [14, 15], and σ on the right is the the Weil-Deligne representation corresponding to π under the local Langlands correspondence [13]. The same question in characteristic zero remains open, although much progress has been made [6].

In this paper, we address the case of Asai γ -factors and related L - and ε -factors. These factors can be seen as a generalization of those studied in [1] by T. Asai. Let E/F be a separable quadratic extension of locally compact fields of positive characteristic and let \overline{F} be a separable algebraic closure containing E . Let π be a smooth irreducible representation of $\mathrm{GL}_n(E)$. The L -group of $\mathrm{Res}_{E/F} \mathrm{GL}_n$ is $\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C}) \times \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C}) \rtimes \mathcal{W}_F$, where the Weil group \mathcal{W}_F acts via the Galois group $\mathrm{Gal}(E/F) = \{1, \theta\}$. The Asai representation $r_{\mathcal{A}} = r_{\mathcal{A}_n}$ can be defined by

$$\begin{aligned} r_{\mathcal{A}} : \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C}) \times \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C}) \rtimes \mathrm{Gal}(E/F) &\rightarrow \mathrm{GL}_{n^2}(\mathbb{C}), \\ r_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y, 1) &= (x \otimes y) \text{ and } r_{\mathcal{A}}(x, y, \theta) = (y \otimes x). \end{aligned}$$

The Langlands-Shahidi method is used in [15] to define Asai γ -factors $\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi)$ in characteristic p ; we rely on that construction in the current paper. Writing σ as

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the Weil-Deligne representation of \mathcal{W}_E corresponding to π under local Langlands, we prove that

$$(1.1) \quad \gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \gamma_F^{\text{Gal}}(s, \text{I}(\sigma), \psi),$$

where $\text{I}(\sigma)$ denotes the representation of \mathcal{W}_F obtained from σ by tensor induction (see Theorem 3.3). In the case of characteristic zero, equation (1.1) for $n = 2$ is known [11, 17] (see [6] for progress in the general case).

Theorem 3.3 is proved via a characterization of Asai γ -factors involving local properties together with their connection with the global theory by means of a functional equation described below (1.2). More precisely, the local properties of $\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi)$ include: a naturality property with respect to isomorphisms of quadratic extensions E/F ; an isomorphism property pertaining to π ; a dependence on the additive character ψ , which can be made explicit; a crucial multiplicativity property with respect to parabolic induction, which reflects the influence of taking tensor induction on a direct sum of Weil-Deligne representations; and finally, (1.1) is needed whenever the representation π is the generic component of an unramified principal series.

Let K/k be a quadratic separable extension of global function fields of characteristic p , for a split place v of K we have $K \otimes k_v \cong k_v \times k_v$. Thus, in the local theory, the case of a separable quadratic algebra E/F is treated simultaneously. The connection with the global theory is now given by the global functional equation:

Let Ψ be a non-trivial character of \mathbb{A}_k/k . Given a place v of k , let $K_v = K \otimes k_v$. Let S be a finite set of places such that K/k , Π and Ψ are unramified outside of S . Then

$$(1.2) \quad L^S(s, \Pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}) = \prod_{v \in S} \gamma_{K_v/k_v}(s, \Pi_v, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \Psi_v) L^S(1-s, \check{\Pi}, r_{\mathcal{A}}),$$

where

$$L^S(s, \Pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}) = \prod_{v \notin S} L(s, \Pi_v, r_{\mathcal{A}}).$$

In the course of proving our main results, we directly establish a local-to-global argument for the case of a cuspidal, tamely ramified representation π of $\text{GL}_n(E)$ (hence π of level zero) via the Grundwald-Wang theorem. Then the general problem is reduced to the case of a tamely ramified representation π . This is done by using a local-to-global result due to Gabber and Katz for ℓ -adic representations of the Galois group [10], and translating it via the global Langlands correspondence [12]. We note that care must be taken, since we are considering a quadratic extension E/F .

In the Langlands-Shahidi method, π is assumed to be generic. But, using the Langlands-Zelevinsky classification together with multiplicativity, the definition of γ -factors can be extended to the general case (see § 4.1). Also, we show that the local L - and ε -factors are the same as the corresponding Galois factors. In § 4.2, we take the opportunity to write down a stability property of γ -factors that is not known in characteristic zero. Finally, in § 5 we give a short proof of the equality of local factors studied in [19] for Rankin-Selberg products of GL_m and GL_n .

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2. ASAI γ -FACTORS AND TENSOR INDUCTION

2.1. Fix a prime number p and consider the class $\mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ of triples $(E/F, \pi, \psi)$ consisting of:

- F a locally compact field of characteristic p ;
- E a separable quadratic algebra over F , i.e., either E/F is a separable quadratic extension of local fields or $E \simeq F \times F$.
- π a smooth irreducible representation of $\text{GL}_n(E)$, $n \geq 1$;
- ψ a non-trivial character of F .

Given a triple $(E/F, \pi, \psi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$, we say it is of degree n if π is a representation of $\text{GL}_n(E)$. Let $x \mapsto \bar{x}$ denote conjugation in E/F , i.e., the non-trivial automorphism of E/F . Let q be the cardinality of its residue field and let \mathfrak{p} be its maximal ideal. Given a representation σ , let $\check{\sigma}$ denote its contragredient and let $\sigma^{\text{conj.}}$ denote the representation obtained from σ by conjugation.

Let $\mathbf{G} = \text{U}(2n)$ be the quasi-split unitary group with respect to E/F . This group can be obtained via the hermitian form

$$h(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^{2n} \bar{x}_i y_{2n+1-i}.$$

Asai γ -factors in characteristic p are defined in [15] via the Langlands-Shahidi method. They arise from generic representations π of $M = \mathbf{M}(F)$, where $\mathbf{M} = \text{Res}_{E/F} \text{GL}_n$ is the Siegel Levi subgroup of \mathbf{G} (for general π we refer to § 4.1 below). Asai γ -factors give a rule which, to a triple $(E/F, \pi, \psi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$, associates a rational function $\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi)$ of $\mathbb{C}(q^{-s})$.

2.2. Given a representation σ of \mathcal{W}_E , we consider $\text{I}(\sigma)$ to be tensor induction from \mathcal{W}_E to \mathcal{W}_F . (See § 13 of [3]). Given $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$, let $\sigma = \sigma(\pi)$ be the representation of \mathcal{W}_E corresponding to π via the local Langlands correspondence. The Galois γ -factors arising in connection with the Asai γ -factors will be written:

$$\gamma_F^{\text{Gal}}(s, \text{I}(\sigma), \psi).$$

These factors satisfy a number of easily established properties, including a multiplicativity property reflecting the decomposition rule:

$$\text{I}(\sigma \oplus \tau) \simeq \text{I}(\sigma) \oplus \text{I}(\tau) \oplus \text{Ind}_E^F(\sigma \otimes \tau^{\text{conj.}}).$$

The Asai γ -factors satisfy the corresponding properties, which we list in the next section.

3. CHARACTERIZATION OF ASAI FACTORS

3.1. We first give the local properties of Asai γ -factors:

(i) (Naturality). Let $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ be of degree n , and let η be an isomorphism $\eta : E'/F' \simeq E/F$. Then $\psi' = \psi \circ \eta|_F$ is a non-trivial additive character of F' . Also, via η , π defines a smooth irreducible generic representation π' of $\text{GL}_n(E')$. Then

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \gamma_{E'/F'}(s, \pi', r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi').$$

(ii) (Isomorphism). Let $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ be of degree n , and let π' be a smooth irreducible generic representation of $\text{GL}_n(E)$ isomorphic to π . Then

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi', r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi).$$

For the relationship with Artin factors, see § 5 of [15]. In the case $n = 1$, π can be viewed as a character χ of E^\times . Then $\gamma_{E/F}(s, \chi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi)$ is equal to the abelian γ -factor $\gamma_F(s, \chi|_{F^\times}, \psi)$.

(iii) (Relation with Artin factors). Let $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ be of degree n , and assume that $n = 1$ or that π is the generic component of a principal series. Let $\sigma = \sigma(\pi)$ be the Weil-Deligne representation of \mathcal{W}_E associated to π via the local Langlands correspondence. Let $\mathbf{I}(\sigma)$ be the representation of \mathcal{W}_F obtained from σ by tensor induction. Then

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \gamma_F^{\text{Gal}}(s, \mathbf{I}(\sigma), \psi).$$

We write this as the next property of Asai γ -factors.

(iv) (Dependence on ψ). Let $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ be of degree n , and let $a \in F^\times$. Then $\psi^a : x \mapsto \psi(ax)$ is a non-trivial additive character of F and we have

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi^a) = \omega_\pi(a)^n |a|_F^{n^2(s-\frac{1}{2})} \gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi).$$

Let us give a short proof of (iv), it relies on the definition given in § 5.1 of [15], which we refer to for any unexplained notation. Consider π as a representation of $M \simeq \text{GL}_n(E)$ and assume it is χ_0 -generic, where χ_0 is obtained from ψ . Let

$$t = \text{diag}(a^{-(n-1)}\alpha, a^{-(n-2)}\alpha, \dots, a\alpha, \alpha, \beta, a^{-1}\beta, \dots, a^{n-2}\beta, a^{n-1}\beta) \in T(E),$$

where $\alpha\beta^{-1} = \bar{\alpha}^{-1}\bar{\beta} = a \in F^\times$. Then $w_0(t)t^{-1}$ lies in the center of M . Let π_t be given by $\pi_t(x) = \pi(t^{-1}xt)$. The character $\chi_{0,t}$ given by $\chi_{0,t}(u) = \chi_0(t^{-1}ut)$ is then obtained from ψ^a and π_t is $\chi_{0,t}$ generic. Using the definition and a direct computation we get

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi^a) &= \lambda(\psi, w_0) C_{\bar{\chi}_{0,t}}(s, \tilde{\pi}_t, w_0) \\ &= \omega_{\tilde{\pi}}(a)^n |a|_F^{n^2(s-\frac{1}{2})} \lambda(\psi, w_0) C_{\bar{\chi}_0}(s, \tilde{\pi}, w_0) \\ &= \omega_\pi(a)^n |a|_F^{n^2(s-\frac{1}{2})} \gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi). \end{aligned}$$

The following can be found in § 5 of [15]:

(v) (Multiplicativity of γ -factors). For $i = 1, \dots, d$, let $(E/F, \psi, \pi_i) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ be of degree n_i . Let $n = n_1 + \dots + n_d$ and let π be the unique generic component of the representation of $\text{GL}_n(E)$ parabolically induced from $\pi_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \pi_d$. Then

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \prod_{i=1}^d \gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi_i, r_{\mathcal{A}_{n_i}}, \psi) \prod_{i < j} \gamma_E(s, \pi_i \times \pi_j^{\text{conj.}}, \psi \circ \text{Tr}_{E/F}).$$

(Here, each $\gamma_E(s, \pi_i \times \pi_j^{\text{conj.}}, \psi \circ \text{Tr}_{E/F})$ is a Rankin-Selberg factor; see § 5).

Notice that (v) and the case $n = 1$ give (iii).

(vi) (Split case). Let $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ be of degree n and assume $E \simeq F \times F$. Then $\pi \simeq \pi_1 \otimes \pi_2$, where π_1 and π_2 are smooth irreducible representations of $\text{GL}_n(F)$ and

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \gamma_F(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2, \psi),$$

(Again, $\gamma_F(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2, \psi)$ is a Rankin-Selberg factor; see § 5).

3.2. The link between the local and global theory is provided by the following property (see § 5 of [15]):

(vii) (Global functional equation). Let K/k be a quadratic separable extension of global function fields of characteristic p . Let Ψ be a non-trivial character of \mathbb{A}_k/k and let $\Pi = \otimes' \Pi_v$ be an automorphic cuspidal representation of $(\text{Res}_{K/k} \text{GL}_n)(\mathbb{A}_k) \simeq \text{GL}_n(\mathbb{A}_K)$. Given a place v of k , let $K_v = K \otimes k_v$. Let S be a finite set of places such that K/k , Π and Ψ are unramified outside of S . Then

$$L^S(s, \Pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}) = \prod_{v \in S} \gamma_{K_v/k_v}(s, \Pi_v, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \Psi_v) L^S(1-s, \check{\Pi}, r_{\mathcal{A}}),$$

where

$$L^S(s, \Pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}) = \prod_{v \notin S} L(s, \Pi_v, r_{\mathcal{A}}).$$

3.3. **Theorem.** There is only one rule on $\mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ satisfying properties (i) – (vii). In particular, for $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ of degree n , we have

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \gamma_F^{\text{Gal}}(s, \text{I}(\sigma), \psi),$$

where $\sigma = \sigma(\pi)$ is associated to π via the local Langlands correspondence. Moreover, Asai γ -factors also satisfy:

(viii) (Twisting by unramified characters). Let $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$. Then

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi \otimes |\det(\cdot)|_E^{\frac{s_0}{2}}, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \gamma_{E/F}(s + s_0, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi).$$

(ix) (Local functional equation).

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) \gamma_{E/F}(1-s, \check{\pi}, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \overline{\psi}) = 1.$$

3.4. *Proof of theorem.* Property (viii) can be shown directly, and the local functional equation is a property of γ_F^{Gal} that can be immediately translated to $\gamma_{E/F}$. To prove the main result, we can assume, by multiplicativity, that π is cuspidal; as the case $E \cong F \times F$ is given by (vi), we may assume E/F is a quadratic extension. We proceed by induction on $n \geq 1$, where $n = 1$ is given by property (iii). Thus, we consider $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ of degree $n > 1$.

CASE 1: $n > 1$, E/F tame, π cuspidal and tame. (Thus π is of level zero). Let σ be the corresponding Galois representation under local Langlands. Then σ is irreducible and is given by

$$\sigma = \text{Ind}_{\mathcal{W}_{E'}}^{\mathcal{W}_E}(\chi),$$

where E'/E is an unramified extension of degree n and $\chi : \mathcal{W}_{E'} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$ is a tame character. By class field theory, χ is the same as a character $\chi : E'^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times$. Moreover, χ restricted to $U_{E'}$ is obtained from a regular character of $\mathbb{k}_{E'}^\times$. (Notation: given a local field F , its residue field is denoted by \mathbb{k}_F ; given a global function field k , its field of constants is denoted by \mathbb{k}_k).

Let $k = \mathbb{k}_F(t)$ and let K/k be a separable quadratic extension with $K_0/k_0 \simeq E/F$ and such that $\mathbb{k}_K = \mathbb{k}_E$. Let \mathbb{k}_n be a degree n extension of \mathbb{k}_K , then the constant field extension $K' = \mathbb{k}_n \cdot K$ is a cyclic extension of degree n , unramified everywhere. Then $K'_0/K_0 \simeq E'/E$. Let w be a place of K that splits completely in K'/K . (Notice that a place w of K splits completely in K'/K if n divides the degree of w). Let $S = \{0, w'_1, \dots, w'_n\}$, where $w'_i|w$. We can now proceed as in § 2.3 of [7] and construct a character

$$\xi : \prod U_{K'_w} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times,$$

where the product ranges over all places w' of K' , such that:

- $\xi_0 = \chi|_{U_{K'_0}}$;
- $\xi_{w'} = 1$ if $w' \notin S$, and
- $\xi|_{\mathbb{k}_{K'}^\times} = 1$.

Then ξ further extends to a grōssencharacter

$$\tilde{\xi} : K'^\times \backslash \mathbb{A}_{K'}^\times \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^\times.$$

After globally twisting by an unramified character, we can assume that $\tilde{\xi}_0 = \chi$. Also, $\tilde{\xi}_{w'}$ will be unramified for $w' \notin S$.

A grōssencharacter $\tilde{\xi}$ as above is the same as a character of $\mathcal{W}_{K'}$ via global class field theory. Then

$$R = \text{Ind}_{\mathcal{W}_{K'}}^{\mathcal{W}_K} \tilde{\xi}$$

will have $R_0 = \rho$ and R_v will be reducible for all places v of K , with $v \neq 0$. Indeed, R_v is unramified for $v \notin \{0, w\}$, and R_w is a sum of characters because w is split in K'/K .

Let ℓ , $\ell \neq p$, be a fixed prime number, and let $\iota : \overline{\mathbb{Q}_\ell} \tilde{\rightarrow} \mathbb{C}$ be a fixed field isomorphism. Then, R gives rise to a continuous degree n $\overline{\mathbb{Q}_\ell}$ -representation Σ of \mathcal{W}_K . The global Langlands correspondence, proved in [12], gives a cuspidal automorphic representation $\Pi = \Pi(\Sigma)$. By the local Langlands correspondence of [13], Π_v corresponds to Σ_v .

By construction: π corresponds to Π_0 , Π_v is unramified for $v \notin \{0, w\}$, and Π_w is a principal series representation. (If the place u of k lying below w splits in K/k , then we can use property (vi) instead).

By properties (i) and (ii), we can assume $F = K_0$ and $\pi = \Pi_0$. By property (iv), we can also assume $\psi = \Psi_0$. The global functional equation then gives

$$(3.1) \quad \prod_{v \in S} \gamma_{K_v/k_v}(s, \Pi_v, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \Psi_v) = \prod_{v \in S} \gamma_{k_v}^{\text{Gal}}(s, \text{I}(\Pi_v), \Psi_v),$$

where S is a finite set of places of k containing 0 and u , $w|u$. But, for v distinct from 0 and u , Π_v is an unramified principal series. Also, Π_u is a (possibly ramified) principal series. Hence, property (vii) (and property (vi) if u splits) gives

$$(3.2) \quad \gamma_{K_v/k_v}(s, \Pi_v, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \Psi_v) = \gamma_{k_v}^{\text{Gal}}(s, \text{I}(\Pi_v), \Psi_v), \quad v \in S - \{0\}.$$

Then (3.1) and (3.2) give equality at 0.

CASE 2. $n > 1$, E/F general and π cuspidal, but not necessarily of level zero. Let $\sigma = \sigma(\pi)$ be the corresponding irreducible Weil-Deligne representation. Also, twisting by an unramified character if necessary, we can assume σ is a representation of the Galois group. Then σ factors through some Galois group $\text{Gal}(E'/E)$. Let \tilde{E} be the Galois closure of E'/F . Consider $k = \mathbb{k}_F(t)$ and find a Galois extension \tilde{K}

of k , such that: \tilde{K} is \tilde{E} at 0, tame at ∞ and unramified elsewhere. This is possible by the results of Gabber-Katz [10]; moreover, notice that $\text{Gal}(\tilde{E}/F)$ is the same as $\text{Gal}(\tilde{K}/k)$ in Katz's construction. Then, if we let K/k be the quadratic extension corresponding to E/F , σ gives a representation Σ of $\text{Gal}(\tilde{K}/k)$. The representation Σ will be σ at 0, tame at ∞ and unramified elsewhere.

By the global Langlands correspondence of [12], there exists an irreducible cuspidal automorphic automorphic representation $\Pi = \Pi(\Sigma)$. The local components Π_v of Π are obtained from Σ_v via the local Langlands correspondence of [13]. Since we assumed σ to be a representation of the Galois group, we may need to twist globally by an unramified character to ensure that $\Pi_0 = \pi$, but this does not affect the properties of Π . Then we can apply (3.1) and (3.2) to Π , with $S = \{0, \infty\}$, in order to complete the proof. The equality at ∞ is given by CASE 1 treated above and by the fact that if Σ_∞ is tame, then so are all its irreducible components. \square

4. LOCAL L -FUNCTIONS, ROOT NUMBERS AND STABILITY

4.1. Equality of local factors. Let us recall the definition of local L -functions and ε -factors via the Langlands-Shahidi method. Since the local factors we are studying arise from GL_n , they can be defined for $(E/F, \psi, \pi_i) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ where π is any smooth irreducible representation of $\text{GL}_n(E)$. We note that the following discussion can be used to extend the results of [7], related to $\wedge^2 \rho_n$ and $\text{Sym}^2 \rho_n$, to representations that are not necessarily generic.

Let $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$. Let us first assume that π is tempered, then π is generic [22]. Let $P_\pi(t)$ be the unique polynomial satisfying $P_\pi(0) = 1$ and such that $P_\pi(q^{-s})$ is the numerator of $\gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi)$. Then

$$L(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}) := P_\pi(q^{-s})^{-1}.$$

Because π is tempered, $L(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}})$ is holomorphic for $\text{Re}(s) > 0$. If π is parabolically induced from $\pi_1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \pi_d$, where each π_i is tempered, then multiplicativity of γ -factors gives multiplicativity for the L -functions:

$$L(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}) = \prod_{i=1}^d L(s, \pi_i, r_{\mathcal{A}_{n_i}}) \prod_{i < j} L(s, \pi_i \times \pi_j^{\text{conj.}}).$$

The local ε -factor is defined to satisfy the relation:

$$(4.1) \quad \gamma_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \varepsilon_{E/F}(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) \frac{L(1-s, \check{\pi}, r_{\mathcal{A}})}{L(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}})}.$$

Given $(E/F, \psi, \pi) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$ in general, we can use Langlands classification to write π as parabolically induced from $\pi_{\nu,1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \pi_{\nu,d}$, where each $\pi_{\nu,i}$ is quasi-tempered with a negative Langlands parameter ν . Each $\pi_{0,i}$ is tempered, and the L -functions $L(s, \pi_{\nu,i}, r_{\mathcal{A}})$ and $L(s, \pi_{\nu,i} \times \pi_{\nu,j})$ are defined by analytic continuation on ν . Then

$$L(s, \pi, r_{\mathcal{A}}) := \prod_{i=1}^d L(s, \pi_{\nu,i}, r_{\mathcal{A}_{n_i}}) \prod_{i < j} L(s, \pi_{\nu,i} \times \pi_{\nu,j}^{\text{conj.}}),$$

and the root numbers are defined to satisfy (4.1).

This is in accordance with the way local L -functions and ε -factors are defined for Weil-Deligne representations. Equality of local factors follows first for tempered representations from Theorem 3.3. Then in general by the above discussion.

4.2. Stability of γ -factors. Let us briefly recall the stability property of local factors for Weil-Deligne representations [4, 5]. Let σ be a Weil-Deligne representation. Let η be a character of F^\times of level k , for k sufficiently large (depending on σ). Take an element $c = c(\eta, \psi) \in F^\times$ such that $\psi(cx) = \eta(1+x)$ for $x \in \mathfrak{p}^{[k/2]+1}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}\varepsilon(s, \sigma \otimes \eta, \psi) &= \det(\sigma(c))^{-1} \varepsilon(s, \eta, \psi)^{\dim \sigma}, \\ L(s, \sigma \otimes \eta) &= L(s, \check{\sigma} \otimes \eta^{-1}) = 1.\end{aligned}$$

Because of this, the next property is now a corollary to Theorem 3.3. We phrase it in terms of γ -factors.

Corollary (Stability). *Let $(E/F, \psi, \pi_i) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$, $i = 1, 2$, both of the same degree. Assume that π_1 and π_2 have the same central character. Then, for every sufficiently highly ramified character η of F^\times , we have*

$$\gamma_{E/F}(s, \eta \cdot \pi_1, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi) = \gamma_{E/F}(s, \eta \cdot \pi_2, r_{\mathcal{A}}, \psi).$$

Remark 1. *It is clear that the same result holds for local factors corresponding to exterior and symmetric square L -functions. To be more precise, we use the notation of [7]: Let $(F, \psi, \pi_i) \in \mathcal{L}(p)$, $i = 1, 2$, both of degree n . Assume that π_1 and π_2 have the same central character. Then, for every sufficiently highly ramified character η of F^\times , we have*

$$\gamma_F(s, \eta \cdot \pi_1, r_n, \psi) = \gamma_F(s, \eta \cdot \pi_2, r_n, \psi).$$

Notice that, by the discussion in § 4.1, the representations π_i need not be generic.

5. RANKIN SELBERG PRODUCTS FOR REPRESENTATIONS OF GL_m AND GL_n

5.1. Let $(F, \psi, \pi_i) \in \mathcal{L}_{\text{quad.}}(p)$, $i = 1, 2$. The Rankin-Selberg γ -factor

$$\gamma(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2, \psi) = \varepsilon(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2, \psi) \frac{L(1-s, \check{\pi}_1 \times \check{\pi}_2)}{L(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2)}$$

is defined in [8]. Consider $\mathbf{M} = \text{GL}_m \times \text{GL}_n$ as a maximal Levi subgroup of $\mathbf{G} = \text{GL}_{m+n}$ and let $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{N}$ be the maximal standard parabolic subgroup with Levi \mathbf{M} and unipotent radical \mathbf{N} . The adjoint action of ${}^L\mathbf{M}$ on ${}^L\mathbf{n}$ is $r \simeq \rho_m \otimes \check{\rho}_n$. For this r , the γ -factors $\gamma(s, \pi_1 \otimes \check{\pi}_2, r, \psi)$ are defined in [14, 15] via the Langlands-Shahidi method. The aim of [19] is to establish the equality

$$(5.1) \quad \gamma(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2, \psi) = \gamma(s, \pi_1 \otimes \check{\pi}_2, r, \psi)$$

using completely local methods. What we now provide is a short proof of this result by means of a characterization of γ -factors.

5.2. Proof of equation (5.1). Let $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{T}\mathbf{U}$, be the Borel subgroup of GL_{m+n} consisting of upper triangular matrices. Let χ_0 be the character of $\mathbf{U}(F)$ obtained from ψ and, abusing notation, we also write χ_0 for the restriction of χ_0 to $U_M = \mathbf{M}(F) \cap \mathbf{U}(F)$; they will be w_0 -compatible in the notation of [15]. Consider $\sigma = \pi_1 \otimes \check{\pi}_2$ as a representation of the Levi M . We may assume σ is χ_0 -generic.

Both $\gamma(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2, \psi)$ and $\gamma(s, \pi_1 \otimes \check{\pi}_2, r, \psi)$ satisfy naturality and isomorphism properties. The multiplicativity property of the local coefficient implies multiplicativity for $\gamma(s, \pi_1 \otimes \check{\pi}_2, r, \psi)$. For $\gamma(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2, \psi)$, multiplicativity can be found in Theorem 3.1 of [8]. The relation with Artin factors when π_1 and π_2 are principal series is reduced via multiplicativity to establishing the relation in the case of GL_2 , which is well known.

For $a \in F^\times$, let $t = \text{diag}(a^{-(m+n-1)}, a^{-(m+n-2)}, \dots, a, 1)$. Let $\sigma = \pi_1 \otimes \check{\pi}_2$ and let σ_t be given by $\sigma_t(x) = \sigma(t^{-1}xt)$. The character $\chi_{0,t}$ given by $\chi_{0,t}(u) = \chi_0(t^{-1}ut)$ is then obtained from ψ^a and σ_t is $\chi_{0,t}$ generic. Using the definition and a direct computation to compare both local coefficients we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma(s, \pi_1 \otimes \check{\pi}_2, r, \psi^a) &= C_{\overline{\chi}_{0,t}}(s, \check{\sigma}_t, w_0) \\ &= \omega_{\check{\pi}_1}(a)^{-m} \omega_{\pi_2}(a)^n |a|_F^{mn(s-\frac{1}{2})} C_{\overline{\chi}_0}(s, \check{\sigma}, w_0) \\ &= \omega_{\pi_1}(a)^m \omega_{\pi_2}(a)^n |a|_F^{mn(s-\frac{1}{2})} \gamma(s, \pi_1 \otimes \check{\pi}_2, r, \psi). \end{aligned}$$

The same relationship holds for $\gamma(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2, \psi)$.

Finally, we have a global functional equation: Let K be a global function field of characteristic p , let $\Psi = \otimes_v \Psi_v$ be a non-trivial character of $K \setminus \mathbb{A}_K$, and let Π_1 and Π_2 be cuspidal automorphic representations of $\text{GL}_m(\mathbb{A}_K)$ and $\text{GL}_n(\mathbb{A}_K)$, respectively. Let S be a finite set of places of K such that Ψ and Π_i , for $i = 1, 2$, are unramified outside of S . Then, Theorem 5.14 of [14] gives

$$L^S(s, \Pi_1 \times \Pi_2) = \prod_{v \in S} \gamma(s, \Pi_{1,v} \otimes \check{\Pi}_{2,v}, r, \Psi_v) L^S(1-s, \check{\Pi}_1 \times \check{\Pi}_2).$$

The functional equation for $\gamma(s, \Pi_1 \times \Pi_2, \psi)$ can be found in [2, 16].

Given local representations π_1 and π_2 , we use the local-global argument in the proof of Theorem 3.3 to prove (5.1). A brief outline should suffice: by multiplicativity, assume π_1 and π_2 are cuspidal. Use Proposition 2.2 of [7] to deal with the case when π_1 and π_2 are both cuspidal of level zero. Then, use Proposition 3.1 of [7] for general cuspidal representations.

Remark 2. *The above argument should also hold in characteristic zero by using Proposition 5.1 of [20] as the link between the local and the global theory, relying on the global functional equation [2, 18]. The theory for archimedean local fields is studied in [9, 21].*

Remark 3. *The local properties of $\gamma(s, \pi_1 \times \pi_2, \psi)$ used above can also be obtained via the local Langlands correspondence in any characteristic.*

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